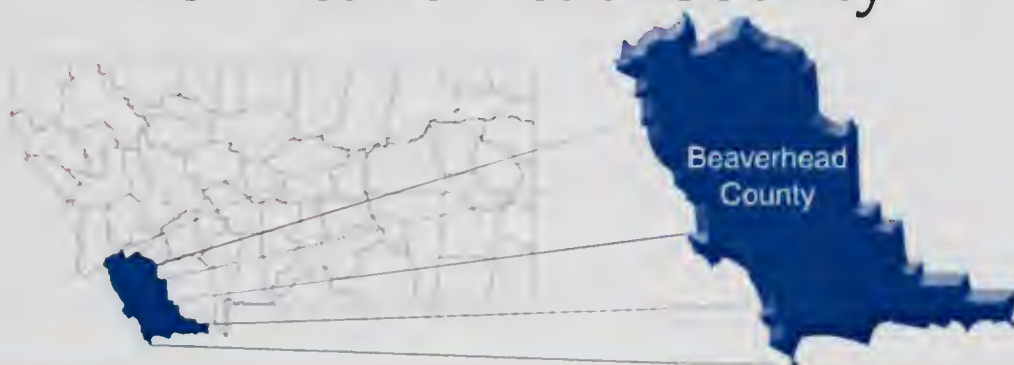


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For Beaverhead County



Cities and Towns in Beaverhead County

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RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU
WORKFORCE SERVICES DIVISION
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

March 2005



Beaverhead County

Located in southwestern Montana, Beaverhead County is number one in Montana for total number of cattle and calves and has 204 beef cattle ranches (see table to the right), making the county an important player in the state's cattle industry. The cattle industry is the number one agricultural industry in Montana in terms of sales and revenues, according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture.

Information on the inside table, Employment by Industry, Annual Averages for 2003, shows government is also important to the area economy with slightly more than one-third of the total wages coming from this sector. Government wages (mainly forestry and the university) average about \$10,000 more per job than private sector wages per job.

Beaverhead County is Montana's 24th most populous with 8,919 residents, according to the 2003 U.S. Census Bureau estimates. Dillon, the county seat, is the state's 20th largest city with a population of 4,035. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, median income for Beaverhead County households in 2002 was \$30,478, compared to Montana's median income of \$34,105 for the same year. Median income is the average per household income in the county (no matter how many people live in the home); per capita income (inside table) is all income in the county divided by the number of people in the county.

The county is also home to The University of Montana Western. According to the *Montana Almanac*, by authors Andrea Merrill and Judy Jacobson, the county was established in 1865 and is the largest county in terms of area. The authors say the county name is from the Shoshone, after a rock formation shaped like a beaver's head along the Beaverhead River, 12 miles southwest of Twin Bridges. Bannack, a gold mining town, was the county seat until it was changed to Dillon in 1881. The authors add, Montana's sheep industry originated in Beaverhead County and the county's also home to the Big Hole River, famous for its blue-ribbon trout fishing.

Beaverhead County Population

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Area	7/1/2003 Estimate	7/1/2002 Estimate	4/1/2000 Census	4/1/1990 Census	Percent Change 2002-2003	Percent Change 2000-2003	Percent Change 1990-2000
Montana	917,621	910,372	902,195	799,065	0.8%	1.7%	12.9%
Beaverhead County	8,919	8,984	9,202	8,424	-0.7%	-3.1%	9.2%
Dillon	4,035	4,061	4,149	3,991	-0.6%	-2.7%	4.0%
Lima	231	234	242	265	-1.3%	-4.5%	-8.7%

Beaverhead County Farms and Ranches

Total Farms and Ranches	421
Oilseed & Grain Farming	5
Vegetable & Melon Farming	5
Fruit & Tree Nut Farming	0
Greenhouse, Nursery & Floriculture Production	2
Sugar Beets, Hay & All Other Crops	95
Beef Cattle Ranching & Farming	204
Cattle Feedlots	5
Dairy Cattle & Milk Production	6
Hog & Pig Farming	0
Poultry & Egg Production	2
Sheep & Goat Farming	12
Animal Aquaculture & Other Animal Production	85

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service,
2002 Census of Agriculture

2000 Beaverhead County Commuters by Location

<i>County of Residence</i>	<i># Who Work in Madison County</i>	<i>County of Work</i>	<i># Who Live in Madison County</i>
Out of State	10	Out of State	69
Beaverhead County	4,126	Beaverhead County	4,126
Cascade County	20	Deer Lodge County	13
Dawson County	8	Gallatin County	8
Deer Lodge County	35	Jefferson County	11
Gallatin County	8	Madison County	58
Glacier County	5	Missoula County	8
Jefferson County	8	Powell County	9
Lewis & Clark County	7	Ravalli County	5
Lincoln County	5	Silver Bow County	76
Madison County	121	Other counties	20
Petroleum County	3		
Ravalli County	6		
Silver Bow County	59		
Stillwater County	5		
Other Montana counties	6		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Data

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Data

Beaverhead County 2003

Count of Persons by Age, Race, and Gender

<i>School Age</i>	White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone and Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
5 to 9	480	213	5	1	9	5	0	0	8	5	30	13
10 to 14	554	266	1	1	11	7	0	0	6	3	18	11
15 to 19	807	368	2	0	31	12	1	0	13	6	37	15
20 to 24	701	333	2	1	20	9	2	1	10	5	26	10
Total	2,542	1,180	10	3	71	33	3	1	37	19	111	49

<i>Working Age</i>	White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone and Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
15+	7,176	3,527	12	1	123	60	15	9	45	22	204	85
15-64	5,872	2,847	12	1	116	58	11	6	45	22	193	78
20+	6,369	3,159	10	1	92	48	14	9	32	16	167	70
20-64	5,065	2,479	10	1	85	46	10	6	32	16	156	63

<i>Other Age Group</i>	White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone and Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
0 to 4	446	237	1	0	14	8	3	1	10	4	15	8
5 to 19	1,841	847	8	2	51	24	1	0	27	14	85	39
20 to 44	2,619	1,274	8	1	57	31	6	2	21	10	104	39
45 to 64	2,446	1,205	2	0	28	15	4	4	11	6	52	24
65+	1,304	680	0	0	7	2	4	3	0	0	11	7
Total	8,656	4,243	19	3	157	80	18	10	69	34	267	117

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 Population Estimates
Compiled by: Research & Analysis Bureau

Top 10 Private Employers in Beaverhead County Listed in Alphabetical Order

Barrett Hospital & Healthcare

Barretts Minerals Inc.

Best Western Paradise Inn

Great Harvest Bread
Franchising

McDonald's of Dillon

Parkview Acres Care &
Rehabilitation Center

R.E. Miller & Sons

Rocky Mountain Supply

Safeway

State Bank & Trust Co.

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau Second Quarter 2004 Unemployment Insurance Information. This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to Unemployment Insurance. Railroads and city, county, state, and federal government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.

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